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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 30, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 25 totaled an estimated 18.2 billion ton-miles, 1.7 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 43 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 730.1 billion ton-miles, 0.1 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 25 totaled 407,919, up 3.9 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 4.0 percent higher than the preceding week. The October 25 total was the highest since the week ended June 22, 1985. Compared with last year, loadings were up 8.5 percent in the West, and 5.1 percent in the East, but down 5.4 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 12 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 8,985 cars (33.7 percent) and coal increased by 3,686 cars (3.2 percent). Eighteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 18 totaled 105,021 trailers and/or containers, 10.2 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 42 weeks of the year was 4,010,175 trailers and/or containers, up 9.0 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/25/86:

	Loadings in Week ended October 25, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percen
Grain	35,636	I	8,985	33.7	I	1,823	5.4
Other farm products	5,635	I	1,418	33.6	I	725	14.8
Metallic ores	15,480	D	1,394	8.3	I	1,954	14.4
Coal	117,318	I	3,686	3.2	I	3,373	3.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,447	I	467	3.3	I	160	1.1
Nonmetallic minerals	8,439	D	1,393	14.2	D	106	1.2
Grain mill products	11,455	I	401	3.6	I	646	6.0
Food and kindred products	11,667	D	1	0.0	I	848	7.8
Primary forest products	10,572	D	639	5.7	I	645	6.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,727	I	620	8.7	I	121	1.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,274	D	1,132	8.4	I	566	4.8
Chemicals and allied products	23,358	D	111	0.5	I	1,119	5.0
Petroleum products	4,786	I	276	6.1	I	131	2.8
Stone, clay and glass products	10,517	I	246	2.4	I	95	0.9
Coke	4,304	D	461	9.7	I	293	7.3
Metals and products	7,227	D	505	6.5	D	334	4.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,513	D	914	4.3	I	772	3.9
Waste and scrap materials	8,011	D	602	7.0	I	345	4.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,403	D	3,523	50.9	I	116	3.5
All other carloads	75,024	I	10,078	15.5	I	2,329	3.2
LCL traffic	126	D	54	30.0	D	22	14.9
Total Cars Loaded	407,919	I	15,448	3.9	I	15,599	4.0
Corresponding week of 1985	392,471						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (43 weeks)	16,136,675	16,231,501	D 0.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
42 Weeks ended October 18	711.8	711.6	I 0.0
Week ended October 25	18.2	17.9	I 1.7
43 Weeks cumulative	730.1	729.5	I 0.1

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